

**REMARKS**

In the present response, minor amendments have been made to claims 60 and 61. No new matter has been introduced by the present amendment.

In the Office Action, the Examiner stated that claims 1-19 are generic. The Examiner requested that Applicant elect between two alleged species, a first of which is depicted in Figure 2, and a second species depicted in Figures 3A-3C.

In response, Applicant respectfully submits that dependent claims 20 and 21 are generic claims. Thus, at a minimum, it is believed that claims 1-21 are generic.

Claims 22-30 are specifically directed to the illustrative embodiment depicted in Figure 2.

Claims 31-58 are specifically directed to the illustrative embodiment depicted in Figures 3A-3C.

Claims 59-65 include one limitation drafted in means-plus-function format under 35 U.S.C. § 112. It is believed that claims 59 and 62 are generic. Claim 61 is directed to the embodiment depicted in Figure 2. Claims 60 and 63-65 are directed to the illustrative embodiment depicted in Figures 3A-3C.

Should the Examiner maintain the restriction requirement, Applicant elects to prosecute the undisputed generic claims identified by the Examiner, *i.e.*, claims 1-19, as well as the two generic dependent claims 20-21 depending from claim 19. Applicant also elects to prosecute the claims directed to the illustrative embodiment depicted in Figure 2, *i.e.*, claims 22-30.

Based on the argument set forth above, it is likewise believed that claims 59 and 62 should be prosecuted in the present application as they are generic claims. Applicant further

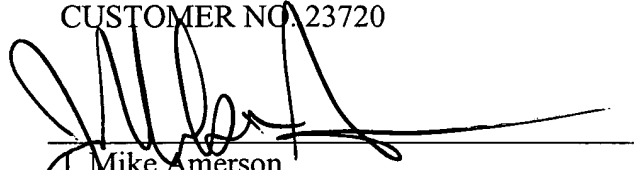
believes that claim 61 should also be prosecuted in the present application as it is specifically directed to the illustrative embodiment depicted in Figure 2.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at (713) 934-4055 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAMS, MORGAN & AMERSON  
CUSTOMER NO. 23720

Date: April 6, 2005



J. Mike Amerson  
Reg. No. 35,426  
10333 Richmond, Suite 1100  
Houston, Texas 77042  
(713) 934-4056  
(713) 934-7011 (facsimile)

ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANTS